

U.S. COAST GUARD RESERVIST

VOLUME 53

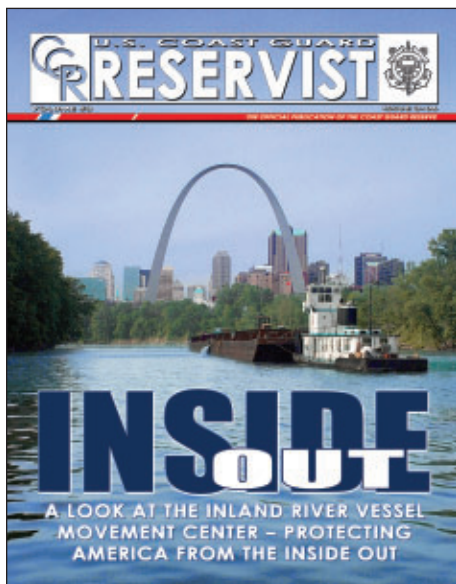
ISSUE 3-06

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE COAST GUARD RESERVE



INSIDE OUT

A LOOK AT THE INLAND RIVER VESSEL
MOVEMENT CENTER – PROTECTING
AMERICA FROM THE INSIDE OUT



Hails, Farewells and Boatloads of New Opportunities

It's that time of year again when we begin say so long to many of our shipmates as they head for new locations, assignments, and opportunities. The biggest changes are at the top of the Coast Guard hierarchy. We bid farewell to ADM Thomas Collins, our Commandant, and MCPOCG Frank Welch, the top enlisted Coast Guardsman, as they retire in the near future. Both have served in their respective positions since mid-2002. VADM Thad Allen will relieve ADM Collins May 25 at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C. Meanwhile, MCPO Charles "Skip" Bowen will relieve MCPOCG Welch June 14 at TISCOM (see "Upcoming Events" for more details).

Closer to home, RADM Sally Brice-O'Hara, Director of Reserve & Training (CG-13) since July 2005, is heading for Honolulu where she will serve as Commander of the Fourteenth District. RADM Ken Venuto, Assistant Commandant for Human Resources (CG-1) is retiring in late spring. Congratulations to all on their stellar Coast Guard careers!

Our cover story is on the Inland River Vessel Movement Center (IRVMC), a fairly new program in the Eighth District. LCDR Ken Hines, USCGR, has done an excellent job explaining IRVMC, which many reservists have worked on. It may have nationwide implications for the rest of the Coast Guard in the future.

Did you hear the Coast Guard is getting ready to transition to a new pistol? The Coast Guard is replacing the 9 mm Berretta with .40 caliber SIG pistols. Read all about it in this issue as well.

Please note the "Address Changes" item on the Bulletin Board. Many of you have used Direct Access (DA) to change your home address but failed to change your "mailing address" as well. There are two fields for addresses (one for your home address, the other for your mailing address) in DA.

Finally, I encourage everyone to check the Coast Guard Reserve Web site at least once a week (www.uscg.mil/reserve). I'm always amazed at how much information comes out on a daily basis that we post via "Hot Items," messages, and ADSW opportunities. It's true that the Coast Guard is a relatively small Service, but there are boatloads of opportunities nationwide. You simply have to look for them. Semper Paratus!

— Ed.

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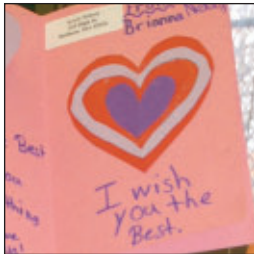
Inside Out

A look at the Inland River
Vessel Movement Center —
Protecting America,
from the Inside Out.



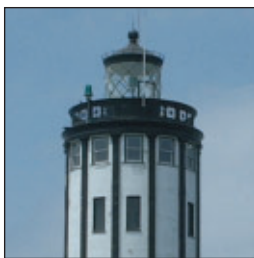
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CGC SENECA comes to
Washington, VADM testifies to
Congress and aboard the CGC
MARIA BRAY.



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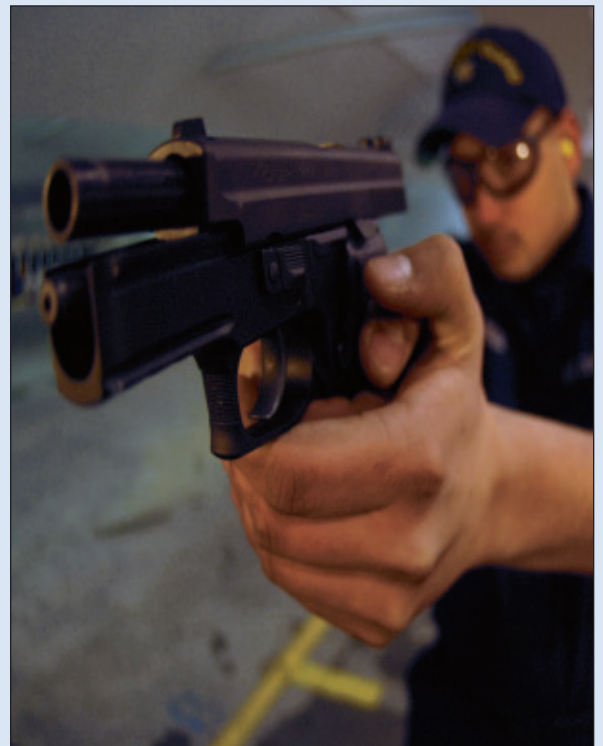
Reserve Recruiters of the Year,
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A Change in Your Holster

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the Barretta 9 mm to the SIG .40 cal.

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Proper Tributes

As I read the tribute to CAPT Frank Buckley in Issue 2-06, I had to think, "Was I one of the Coast Guard Reserves violators?" Carolyn Ingraham and Frank Buckley provided inspiration for a generation of Coasties, and The Reservist properly paid tribute to two great Americans. I was blessed to have personally known both of them. They were unique people who helped make my Coast Guard Reserve experience so memorable. In their relationships with family, friends and shipmates, they put the needs of others before themselves. In doing so, Carolyn and Frank fulfilled the Great Commandment. May they rest in peace. "The candle that burns twice as bright burns half as long."

— **MCPO Jim Connolly, USCGR(Ret.) Frisco, Texas**

Thanks for the tribute to CWO3 Wycliffe "Bubba" Morton in Issue 2-06. I got to know him a little in the 1980s. My brother, who had just opened up a law practice after having been a contract attorney for Boeing, invited me to breakfast to meet Bubba Morton, "a retired professional baseball player." Bubba and my brother had worked together at Boeing and Bubba was "on loan" from Boeing to the Seattle Mariners, selling season ticket packages to downtown business people. I was a relatively new YN3 and Bubba was a Chief Radioman. When we discovered our USCG linkage, we talked Coast Guard, likely frustrating my brother who wanted to talk baseball.

Bubba was one of the first professional athletes to settle here (Seattle area) after his playing career ended with a Seattle team (Seattle Angels — AAA baseball). He retired long before the era of big dollar contracts. A gentleman who carried his professionalism well, Bubba Morton remained an asset to this community.

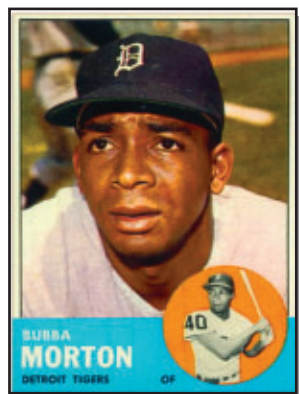
— **YNC Thomas Heavey, USCGR Group/Air Station Port Angeles, Wash.**

ESGR, USERRA, and Employers

This is in reply to the letter from PA1 Alan Haraf, USCGR, in Issue 1-06, "ESGR, USERRA and Employers." I am a border patrol agent with 20 years of federal law enforcement experience under the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security (formerly the Department of Justice Immigration and Naturalization Service). I have been a Coast Guard Reservist since 1978.

In August 2005, a coworker and former Air Force enlisted veteran was assigned to be my acting supervisor. He changed my scheduled days off to days that I had requested to take military leave. This is a violation of USERRA. I was declared AWOL for one of my scheduled days off because he claimed he had called me to notify me of the change, (which wasn't true). Under USERRA, I am entitled to my two days off duty and to take military leave if requested. I notified ESGR and they gave me a contact number for a local representative who happens to be an attorney. I never got a response and called ESGR again to advise them.

ESGR gave me another point of contact that was able to provide the new phone number for the local representative. The attorney called me and I sent him an e-mail with the information regarding my incident. He stated in reply that he would call my employer the



next day. I am still waiting and will probably have to call USERRA again to get another representative. I learned that believe it or not, the federal government is or appears to be the largest violator of USERRA laws.

— **PSC Luis A. Reyes, USCGR Aguadilla, Puerto Rico**

Military Retirement Pay at 55?

How come I've never read in The Reservist magazine about the most vital bill in Congress — the one to lower the Reserve retirement age to 55 years old? This issue should be the most important issue for all reserve members to fight for and for The Reservist magazine to be an advocate for this issue. Reserve members in RET-2 status (retired without pay) all need to know about this bill and its status, who's supporting it, who's not, and a plan to get it passed as soon as possible. I cannot believe The Reservist magazine to my knowledge has not taken this issue up and placed it on the front cover. Please explain this to me and all others in RET-2 status.

— **YN1 Robert J. Pearson, USCGR Canton, Mich.**

Ed's note: The bill in Congress now would amend Title 10, United States Code, to reduce the age for receipt of military retired pay for non-regular service from 60 years of age to 55 years of age. It was introduced in the House of Representatives (H.R. 783) Feb. 10, 2005, and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services, and Subcommittee on Military Personnel March 14, 2005. The Senate version (S. 639) was introduced March 16, 2005, and referred to the Committee on Armed Services. We'll keep you posted as updates occur.

CWO Realignment?

Remember the High Year Tenure mistake of the early 1990s? Remember how the pendulum swung too far? Well, the Coast Guard is repeating the mistakes of the past. The Reserve CWO Realignment process was supposed to improve the RPAL billet to CWO match. But, that's not exactly what happened. Speaking only for the PERS CWO specialty, the CWO Realignment process changed almost nothing. Most PERS CWOs remained in the RPAL billets they were already assigned to. The only new requirement was to acknowledge and accept the "new" assignment.

In the process, a determination was made to allow non-assigned CWOs to remain in an "unbudgeted" paid status until June 30, 2006. Effective July 1, 2006, CWOs not assigned to an RPAL billet will be transferred to the IRR, can apply for any vacant RPAL billet for which they qualify, or can retire. One exception: CWOs with a 30-year waiver can remain in a paid status until the expiration of their individual waiver!

By the way, new reserve CWOs will be commissioned in June 2006!

Why would the Coast Guard commission new Reserve CWOs in June 2006? They already have qualified, well performing CWOs. Could it be there's the perception older CWOs are "dead weight"? What about CWOs with 30-year waivers? Aren't they "dead weight" too? Could this be a way to remove double the number of CWOs in a shorter period of time?

According to ALCGPERSCOM 106/05 (MSG R101800Z NOV 05, Subj: CENTRALIZED RESERVE CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER ASSIGNMENT PANEL), qualified CWOs can apply for any vacant RPAL billet via the responsible ISC. When a PERS CWO refused his orders, I applied for the vacant RPAL billet. However, I was told by CGPC that I could not be assigned to that vacant RPAL billet. Instead, I was told that billet would be left vacant until the new crop of PERS CWOs are commissioned in June 2006.

There must be a perception that we, the three SELRES PERS CWOs without assigned RPAL billets are not qualified. How can a newly commissioned, inexperienced officer (PERS CWO) be more qualified than me? I have proven myself time after time, yet I am not qualified for the currently vacant RPAL billet. Will somebody please help me understand the logic and, please, don't put lipstick on the pig!

— **CWO3 George Rubesha, USCGR**
Abingdon, Va

Ed's note: We asked CDR Phil Nowak of Coast Guard Personnel Command, Reserve Personnel Management Division (rpm) to respond to CWO3 Rubesha's letter. Here is his response: This is a great question that links two processes that do not easily mesh: assignments and accessions. Billet realignment, extensive overbilletting, and other reasons produced a CWO corps that was numbering 197 in 2005 against a billet structure of 149 positions. A three-tiered assignment process, starting in the field and culminating in a one-time centralized panel at CGPC, balanced competing variables in arriving at a final assignment slate. Since there were far more CWOs than CWO billets, not everybody could be assigned. Although your letter suggests that most PERS CWOs remained in place, statistics from the panel show significant movement within the PERS specialty. Out of 19 PERS warrants considered by the panel, 13 were assigned to a position; of this number, seven were transferred and only six retained their existing billet. The forces that caused us to realign the CWO corps against the billet structure also led to cancellation of last year's Enlisted-to-CWO Appointment Board. While changes in the mix and location of billets made this necessary, canceling the appointment board created a 'hole' in CWO accessions which we will carry forward for years. For the sake of sound, long-term force management, it was imperative to convene the CWO appointment board this year. Where would we assign new CWO appointees? ALCGPERSCOM 088/05 stated that billets not assigned at the assignment panel would be filled by new appointees. The MLC community identified which vacancies remaining from the assignment panel would be appropriate for fill by new CWOs. Managing the link between assignments and accessions is challenging at best. The only constant you can rely on is for members to actively manage their careers so they can be ready when opportunities crop up.

Ancient Mariner and Albatross

While researching some Coast Guard history, I came across the terms Ancient Mariner and Ancient Albatross. These are time-honored positions and it seems to me that most people (especially reservists and new reservists) don't even know they exist. I think this would make a great story. I am interested in who currently holds these positions.

— **BMC Greg Robertson, USCGR**
Sector Lower Mississippi River, Memphis, Tenn.

Ed's note: According to "Traditions," published by the Coast Guard Historian's Office, the Ancient Mariner is a ceremonial title given to the officer and enlisted person with the earliest date of qualification as a cutterman. The Ancient Mariner, established in 1980, is charged with keeping a close watch to ensure the sea-service

tradition is continued and that the time-honored reputation of the Coast Guard is maintained. The current Ancient Mariners are CAPT R.A. "Mac" McCullough (officer) and BMCM Michael W. Gibbs (enlisted). The Ancient Albatross award was established in 1965 and honors the Coast Guard aviator on active duty who has held that designation for the longest time. The award is in the form of a large bronze and wooden plaque on which the names of the recipients are inscribed. Current Ancient Albatross holders are RADM James C. Olson (officer), and AMTCM William B. Beardsley (enlisted). When the recipients retire, both the Ancient Mariner and Ancient Albatross awards are passed down to the next in line.

GTMO Rotation Correction

I just wanted to send a correction in regards to the "Coast Guard Rotation at GTMO Since 911," published on page 28 of Issue 1-06. I was part of the Atlantic Area Detachment that "filled in" at GTMO from December 2002 until March 2003. We were a 40-person group of volunteers from LANTAREA units.

— **MK2 Patrick Pietrolungo, USCG**
USCGC Mackinaw (WAGB-83)
Cheboygan, Mich.

Ed's note: Thanks for letting us know. MSST 91102 from Chesapeake, Va. relieved the LANTAREA Detachment in March 2003 and served until June 2003.

Still "Fighting" for Coast Guard, Continued...

In regards to PS1 Ladegast's letter in Issue 1-06, who fought to have a Coast Guard flag installed at his local VFW post, my experience was similar with a small local military museum in Middlesex, Vt. They had a flag set up with Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force flags. Needless to say, the owner-curator was somewhat embarrassed (I clued him in nicely).

The above leads me to a second gripe, this one with the magazine, and I suppose it's a result of misguided policy. A prime visible example is the [Coast Guard Reserve] medallion on the back cover (Issue 1-06). I'm sorry, but to me, the [USCG] emblem on current caps, racing stripes, and the Coast Guard ensign are to me, a unifying emblem. Semper Paratus!

— **QM1 Leroy M. Carlson, USCGR(Ret.)**
North Middlesex, Vt.

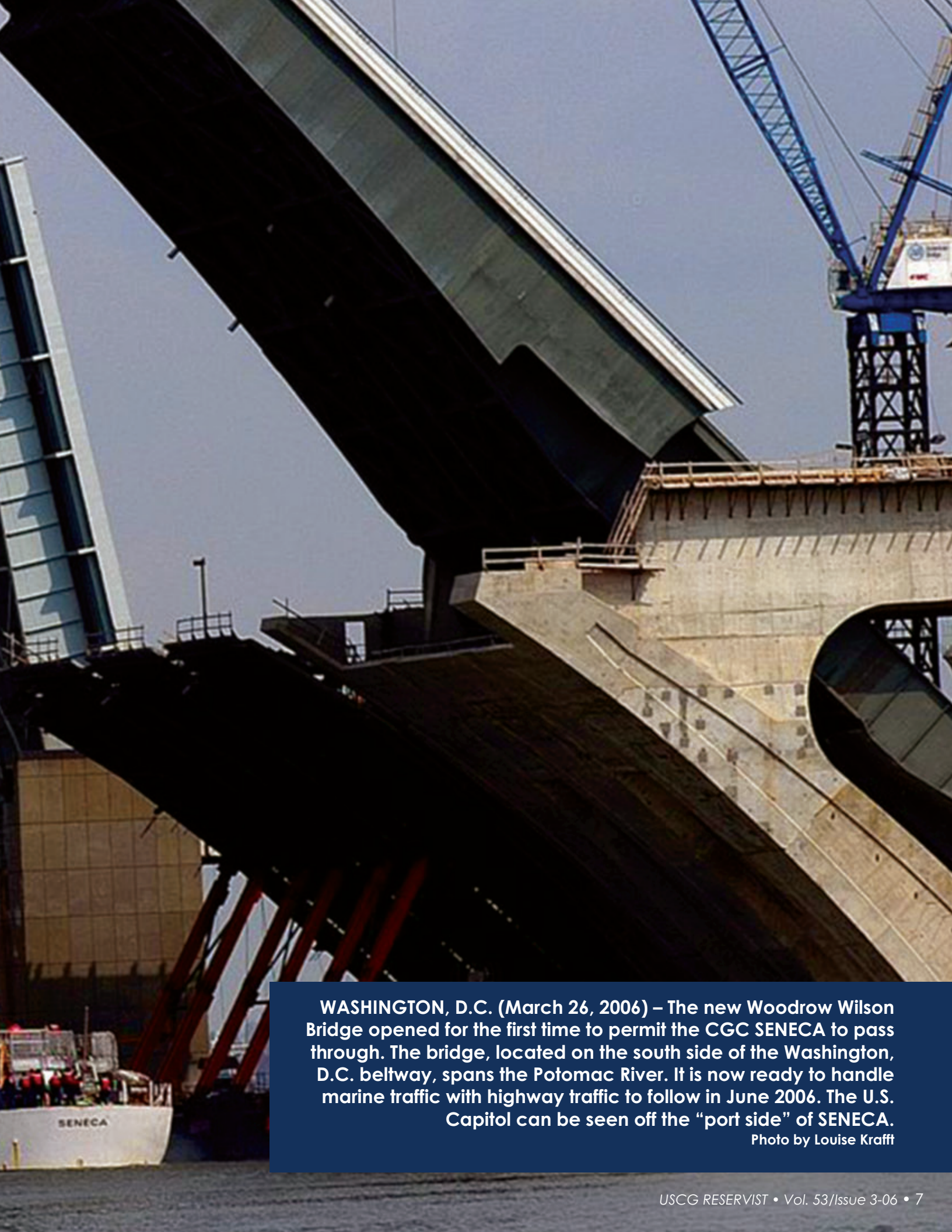
Thanks from Outgoing PS "A" School Chief

I just wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation to all Coast Guard Reservists on letting me fulfill my goal of giving back to the Coast Guard through the PS "A" school where I served as school chief for several years until December 2005. Serving with all of you was an experience I will treasure for the rest of my life.

I leave this job with the Coast Guard the same way I started — with my head held high knowing I have made a difference. Today's PS program is better because of the help, assistance, and hard work of all the students and reservists who have contributed to the program and the school. Each and every one of you shared your knowledge and ideas, and pushed me to strive for more. I leave the position of PS "A" School Chief with pride, and know the future will continue to bring even more exciting challenges for the students and the school. Your friendships are what count the most, and it's truly been an honor to work with the best! I thank all of you for everything you have shared and given me. It's been a great tour of duty.

— **CWO4 Don Allen, USCGR**
Suffolk, Va.





WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 26, 2006) – The new Woodrow Wilson Bridge opened for the first time to permit the CGC SENECA to pass through. The bridge, located on the south side of the Washington, D.C. beltway, spans the Potomac River. It is now ready to handle marine traffic with highway traffic to follow in June 2006. The U.S. Capitol can be seen off the “port side” of SENECA.

Photo by Louise Krafft



VICE ADMIRAL
ALLEN

WASHINGTON D.C. (April 6, 2006) VADM Thad Allen addresses a Senate committee on the Coast Guard's role as the lead federal agency for maritime national security. USCG photo by PA1 Barry Lane.







JACKSONVILLE Fla. (March 8, 2006) – BM2 Brian Cross uses hand signals to direct the crane operator to lower a shot of chain onto the deck of the CGC MARIA BRAY.
USCG photo by PA2 Bobby Nash.



By
RADM
Sally Brice O'Hara

Director of
Reserve and Training

"But, there's a measure of truth in the old adage, 'Leaders are made, not born.' Each one of us has the potential to be a great leader, though most of us require a little help developing that potential and honing the skills to remain proficient."

Leadership tools sharpen readiness

As Coast Guard members, we are all supposed to be leaders. Our success as an organization depends on it, particularly as we renew our focus on building a Reserve Force that is trained and accessible for mobilization.

As you know, our Commandant, ADM Thomas Collins recently signed a policy statement outlining the core strategic functions of the Coast Guard Reserve: Maritime Homeland Security, domestic and expeditionary support to national defense, and domestic, natural or man-made disaster response and recovery.

Unit commanders are expected to use their leadership to ensure their assigned reservists are trained for mobilization. Individual reservists are also expected to take responsibility for maintaining the competencies required for mobilization. That means following the guidance laid out for us. And being a good follower is a first step toward becoming a leader.

But, there's a measure of truth in the old adage, "Leaders are made, not born." Each one of us has the potential to be a great leader, though most of us require a little help developing that potential and honing the skills to remain proficient.

Just as our physical conditioning and development can be aided by tools – treadmills, free weights, and the like – we can build strength as leaders through tools developed by the Coast Guard for that purpose.

A good start is to review the Coast Guard's 28 leadership competencies, approved in 2004 to ensure our Service remains always ready to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

These competencies are built around (1) leading ourselves, (2) leading others, (3) leading performance and change, and (4) leading the Coast Guard. You can find them online at: www.uscg.mil/leadership.

One tool to help us master these competencies is the Unit Leadership Development Program, or ULDP. ULDP, which is required at all Coast Guard units (see ALCOAST 057/05 at: www.uscg.mil/leadership), harnesses the power of the Internet to support the leadership training that occurs daily, on-the-job, at every unit and workgroup.

ULDP builds on the success of our resident leadership programs to bring the same concepts to our people in the field. ULDP uses an assessment process to enable units to identify leadership strengths and gaps, then helps them create action plans to close the gaps and build team cohesion.

So far, more than 760 units have signed on, and reviews have been excellent, according to my team in the Office of Leadership and Professional Development. If your unit has not already started ULDP, be sure to ask your supervisor when it's coming your way.

The Individual Development Plan, or IDP, is another new tool for developing and fostering leaders. Required for first-term enlistees and junior officers, active and Reserve, who are assigned to a permanent duty station, the IDP is a valuable performance enhancement and career development tool.

In essence, the IDP is a personally tailored action plan that the supervisor and individual use to identify short and long-term personal and career goals. It outlines the training and developmental experiences to achieve those goals, for the benefit of the individual, unit and Coast Guard.

According to COMDTINST 5357.1A, commanding officers and individual supervisors are responsible for making sure they understand, support and implement the IDP program.

But members using the IDP also have responsibilities, too, including caring about their careers and obtaining the maximum benefit from their service in the Coast Guard. This links directly to the requirement that individual reservists need to maintain the competencies to meet their mobilization missions.

This is why ULDP and the IDP are of such critical importance right now. Use these tools, and master them as you grow and develop as a leader in the Coast Guard. Use them to develop the future leaders who will one day relieve you.

As you may have noted in recent message traffic, my tour as Director of Reserve and Training is drawing to a close. I am very proud of the things we have been able to accomplish for a more ready and relevant Reserve program in the short time we have worked together.

A permanent successor as Director of Reserve and Training should be identified after Flag selections in July, and the staff here will let you know as soon as that happens.

So, as I depart Washington, D.C. for the balmy climes of Hawaii, I refrain from offering the typical, "Farewell and following seas." Instead, I am looking forward to continued engagement in Reserve issues in my new assignment and new adventures with the Coast Guard team in D14, active, Reserve, Auxiliary and civilian. Semper Paratus.

Reserve Recruiters of Year Selected for FY 2005

PSCS Joseph Yurillo and SK1 Vern Drayton have been named Reserve Recruiters of the Year for FY2005.

Yurillo, of Recruiting Office Miami, had 27 Reserve accessions in FY05. Drayton, of Recruiting Office Long Island, N.Y., had 26. The award is shared due to the different environments in which these exceptional recruiters performed their duties. Yurillo's AOR was unrestricted, meaning he could recruit to a wide variety of billets, while Drayton's was in a restricted AOR that required him to visit each local unit in search of available over billets.

Recruiting Office Greensboro, N.C. distinguished itself as the FY05 Recruiting Office of the Year. They achieved 185 percent of their assigned active duty mission, and 10 officer packages. Meanwhile, Recruiting Office Long Island, N.Y. was selected as the Reserve Recruiting Office of the Year. RO Long Island achieved 145 percent of their assigned Reserve mission, an average of 10 Reserve accessions per recruiter, more than double the national average.

YNC Scott Hartford, of RO Portland, Maine, distinguished himself as the active duty Recruiter of the Year with 59 accessions, more than five times the production of an average recruiter. YN2 Valerie Kahiikina of Recruiting Office Honolulu was selected as the Officer Recruiter of the Year, achieving a 30 percent selection rate of officer candidate applicants while exceeding the individual officer mission by 333 percent.

ALCOAST 025/06 announced the Recruiter of the Year selections. They were honored at an awards ceremony at the Coast Guard's Recruiting Command in Arlington, Va. March 8.

PSCS Joseph Yurillo, top, and SK1 Vern Drayton, bottom.



Photo by Jeffrey E. Phillips, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Making A Point!

Thomas F. Hall, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, responds to questioning by Chairman Steve Buyer (R-Ind.), during a March 15 House Committee on Veterans' Affairs hearing on education benefits for the total military force. To the left of Hall is Bill Carr, Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, Military Personnel Policy. RADM Sally Brice-O'Hara, Director of Reserve & Training, also testified on behalf of the U.S. Coast Guard.



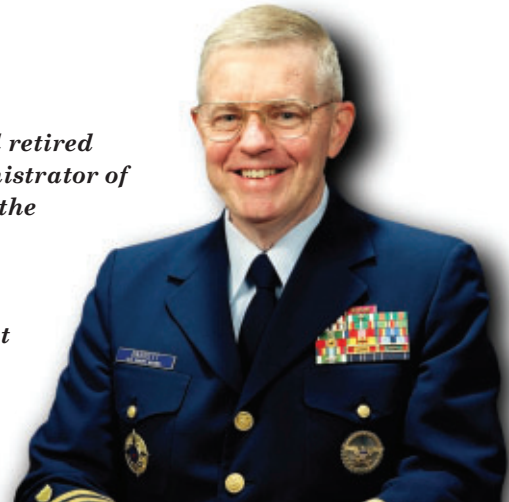
Reenlisting at 9/11 Memorial Site

CAPT Glen A. Wiltshire, Sector New York, left, reenlists PSCS Francis Gorman, USCGR, right, at the temporary 9/11 Memorial Site at Liberty and West Streets in New York City March 16 (Gorman's 41st birthday). Looking on, left to right: CWO2 Amy Gonzales, Mrs. Kathleen Gorman (mother of PSCS), CDR Mark Mooney, CDR Robert Laahs, Mrs. Sharon Gorman (spouse of PSCS), CWO2 Peggy

Kennedy, and BMCS Patrick Brennan. Gorman chose to reenlist at the site in memory of his friends who perished there, and because he served nearly 38 months on active duty from Sept. 11, 2001 to June 30, 2005. His father was also one of the first employees to occupy 1 World Trade Center when it opened in 1973.

In Brief

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President George W. Bush has nominated retired Coast Guardsman VADM Thomas J. Barrett to be the first Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has approved the nomination. Barrett served 35 years in the Coast Guard and retired as Vice Commandant July 24, 2004. He served as the Coast Guard's Director of Reserve and Training from 1997-99. Currently, he serves as Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies.



ADM Thomas Collins presented awards to the following at a Headquarters ceremony March 23:

Witherspoon Award
CDR Scott Kitchen
Air Station New Orleans,

McShan Award
BMC Heath Jones
Station Little Creek, Va.,

Putnam Award
Kathleen Thore
Training Center Petaluma, Calif.,

Elite Athlete – Female
LTJG Catharine Johann
Flight School, Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.

Elite Athlete – Male
LTJG Micah Bonner,
Sector Mobile, Ala.

School Children Send Their Hearts to Service Members Overseas



Brianna Nelson, 9, a fourth-grade student at Avery Elementary School, shows off her Valentine's Day card she is sending to service members overseas. The packages will be sent to a former Avery student, Coast Guard Reservist PS3 Sean Roberts, currently serving in Kuwait.

Story and photos by PA3 Kelly Turner

DEDHAM, Mass. — OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM has touched the lives of American communities across the country and they're finding ways to show support for their local men and women.

The small town of Dedham, Mass. isn't any different. One of Dedham's residents, Coast Guard Reservist PS3 Sean Roberts, 21, was deployed overseas. Dedham's Avery Elementary joined together for a project the school calls "Random Acts of Kindness." The fourth graders put together care packages, valentines, candy and letters for Roberts and his shipmates.

"We're doing this to remind them that a lot of people care," said Brianna Nelson, 9.

Avery's fourth grade teachers thought it would be a good idea to make a writing assignment out of this as well, and educate the children about military life. They showed them photos of the many uniforms, weapons and

vehicles used by the various services. The teachers then encouraged each student to write a letter asking the service members about what it's like being in the military and overseas.

After learning about military culture, Jack Moran, 9, was asked if he would ever join the military.

"I couldn't get up at 5 a.m., I'd rather sleep," said Moran.

The children were also asked why it was important to send letters to service members overseas. Chris Donovan, 10, answered, "Sean is probably feeling lonely and he would like to get letters from his hometown and his old school."

Roberts distributed more than 100 pounds of different care package items to the 49 other Coast Guard and Navy members in his unit.

"All of the students have worked really hard on the Valentines and letters," said Avery teacher Cassi Kennedy. "Their families have sent toiletries and candy for the children to use in the care packages. This really has been a community effort."



Edward Nunez, 9, a student at Avery Elementary School, shows off a Valentine's Day card he is sending to military service members overseas.



Photo by Mr. Scott Prince

REBI Class Romeo 3-06

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 3-06 graduated Jan. 20, 2006 at Training Center Cape May, N.J. Front row, kneeling, left to right: SN Dusti Banazzio, PS3 John Overman III, YN3 Daniel Hubbard, SN Jereme Hayes, DC2 Paul Hudson, SN Andrew Lincoln, PS3 Brice Keeler. Second row, kneeling: SN Nelson Landa, MST3

Edward Akerly Jr. Back row, l to r: PS3 Michael Epperly, SN Amanda Opdyke, SN Melissa Martin-Torres, PS3 Sean McClelland, IT1 Kevin Flagerman, PS3 Kenneth Geving, SN Andrew Schiltz, SN Mark Meyer. Company commanders, l to r: MKCS Wayne Self, BM1 Kevin Buckwald, EM1 John Brown.



Photo by Mr. Scott Prince

REBI Class Romeo 4-06

Reserve Enlisted Basic Indoctrination Class Romeo 4-06 graduated Feb. 24, 2006 at Training Center Cape May, N.J. and is shown here in front of Station Cape May's 47-foot MLB. Front row, left to right: PS2 Richard Shaffer, PS3 Ian Ives, MK3 William Boyle, SN Corey Fickel, IV2 Shawn

Stringer. Back row, l to r: SN Scott Polak, IV3 Jeremy Baldwin, SN Mitchell McClain, PS2 David Shearman, MST2 Timothy Lock. Guidon: SN Wesley Koran III. Company commanders, MKCS Wayne Self, far left; YN2 Michael Scott, far right.

ATLANTA (March 18, 2006)— RADM Stephen Rochon and NASCAR driver Jeff Burton hold the victory trophy from the Nicorette 300, Busch Series NASCAR race. The win was the first victory for Team Coast Guard during 2006. US Army photo by Lt. Col. William Thurmond.







INSIDE

**A LOOK AT THE INLAND RIVER VESSEL
MOVEMENT CENTER – PROTECTING
AMERICA FROM THE INSIDE OUT**

STORY BY

**LCDR KENNETH HINES, USCGR
IRVMC DIRECTOR**

One of the strengths of the IRVMC was the capabilities and experience of the more than 50 reservists who have cycled through on Title 10 active duty recall and ADSW orders ... Many were familiar with areas of the rivers that the towboats were operating in and through ... that [familiarity] helped build the unit.

You may be familiar with a Coast Guard initiative started shortly after the attacks on the homeland in 2001 to increase the visibility of ships entering U.S. ports. Located at OSC Martinsburg, W.Va., it is called the National Vessel Movement Center (NVMC).

Shortly after the NVMC was up and running, senior leadership of the Coast Guard expressed concern about the Coast Guard's ability to look inland to the vital waterway system of the western rivers. In particular, there was concern with the transportation of Certain Dangerous Cargoes (CDC) moving by barge through high-density population areas along the major inland waterways such as the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers.

The western rivers were also recognized by the Coast Guard's leadership as vital to the economic health of the United States. That concern and recognition has translated into the Inland River Vessel Movement Center (IRVMC)

Building From Scratch

The first thing the Coast Guard had to do for development of the IRVMC was draft a plan to track CDC barges on more than 10,000 miles of inland rivers — not an easy task. Enter CAPT Frank Paskewich, CAPT Thomas Hooper, and CDR Jerry Torok at the Eighth Coast Guard District, and Captains of the Port (COTP) throughout the Eighth District.

Their job began with a lot of questions. What chemicals would be included? How would the Captains of the Port be informed? What would the information be used for? Those questions and many more were only a few of the challenges faced when creating a vessel-tracking center from the ground up.

Then, a Regulated Navigation Area (RNA) regulation had to be drafted. This involved identifying which CDCs to include, establishing reporting points for check-in by the towboats pushing CDCs, fleeting area requirements, and creating a staffing plan for this IRVMC vessel tracking center.

A core requirement of IRVMC involved tow boats pushing CDC barges to report when entering and leaving the RNA.

Towboats also needed to provide advance notice before getting underway, advising when underway, cargo type, barge identification, and reporting their location at one of over 90 river checkpoints. Fleet areas (a big parking lot along the riverbank for barges awaiting movement) would report CDCs within the fleet every 24 hours.

IRVMC's job is to gather the CDC information via telephone, e-mail and fax from the towboat captains and continually track the movement of the CDC barges along the rivers and through major cities. The mission is to know at all times where each CDC barge is coming from, where it is going, and its approximate time of arrival to its intended destination. This process started with little more than dry erase boards, pens, pads of paper and telephones. Reporting initially started out slow, but gradually, as the news of the requirement of RNA and IRVMC spread throughout the river industry, calls and reporting increased.

In March 2003, during the first weeks of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, efforts to track CDCs were well underway.

CAPT Michael Brown, USCGR, was recalled to active duty and became the first IRVMC Director from March 2003 to October 2003. By April 2003, the IRVMC was in full operation — created from a basic concept, 26 reservists, a home hosted by the Electronic Support Unit St. Louis, and an important homeland security mission.



IRVMC's Strength: Reservists' Experience and Capabilities

Within a short period of time, the reserve staff created a user-friendly database. Each of the nine COTPs could easily access this information

electronically to determine which CDCs were in their Areas of

Responsibility (AORs). With this

information, the COTPs could make daily boarding team decisions. In addition, the COTP now had additional information that they could use to access risk or river safety issues prior to a CDC transiting or mooring in close proximity to a heavily populated area. Quick and decisive actions could now be made to mitigate threats to the dangerous cargoes because the Coast Guard knew "real-time" where the CDCs were located.

The IRVMC is an Eighth District asset assigned and

working from St. Louis. While IRVMC is a D8 component, MSO Chicago in the Ninth District is part of the COTP base served by the IRVMC, as the Illinois River runs from Chicago to the Mississippi River. The RNA starts just above Baton Rouge at mile 235 on the lower Mississippi River and extends north to Minneapolis-St. Paul. It also covers the Ohio River north to Huntington and Pittsburgh, up the Red River, the Arkansas River to Tulsa, the Tennessee, the Cumberland, the Illinois, Missouri, and the Kanawha Rivers. Towboats pushing CDCs travel daily through the ports of Memphis, Louisville, Cincinnati, Huntington, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Chicago, Peoria, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Paducah and Nashville. In 2005, over 40,000 CDC barge movements were tracked, which equates to more than 100 movements per day.

One of the strengths of the IRVMC was the capabilities and experience of the more than 50 reservists who have cycled through on Title 10 active duty recall and ADSW orders. Nearly all of the current and former reserve staff had either significant civilian or Coast Guard IT expertise or maritime security experience from their reserve assignments. Many reservists were familiar with areas of the rivers that the towboats were operating in and through. What the reservists brought to the unit were years and years of experience on the western rivers that helped build the unit.

Award Winning Program Exciting to Work On

By Coast Guard standards, the IRVMC is truly the “new kid on the block” at just three years old. Growth has included improving quality and speed of access to the tracking database by the COTPs via OSC Martinsburg, and transmitting the IRVMC tracks to the Coast Guard's common operational picture (COP) at C2CEN in Chesapeake, Va. The COP gives the COTPs an even better picture of CDC transits. Now a COTP can see beyond their zone and make security decisions with a larger knowledge base.

Because of technological concept and advancements in Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA), IRVMC was awarded the Commandant's Innovation Award in 2004 in the “Operations and Readiness” category. CAPT Kevin Gillespie, USCGR, the second IRVMC Director from October 2003 to October 2004, pioneered the use of GIS technology to acquire a more meaningful MDA picture and to rapidly display critical information on vessels/barges of interest. Gillespie also worked with Headquarters staff to write the first bridging strategy to transition the IRVMC into Coast Guard ops.



VADM Thad Allen, left, presents the 2004 Coast Guard Innovation Award to CDR (now CAPT) Kevin Gillespie, the second Director of IRVMC. Also pictured are ITC John Williams and CAPT Richard Sullivan, right.

Photo courtesy CDR Ken Hines, USCGR

“Without the information provided to our office by the IRVMC, we would be blind to the CDC movements in our zone,” said CAPT Suzanne Englebert, Commanding Officer of Sector Upper Mississippi River. “In the event the Coast Guard needs to respond to a threat, the IRVMC data allows quick response against threats and hazardous conditions.”

CDR Jerry Torok, now Commanding Officer of VTS Houston, and one of those original architects of the IRVMC RNA, echoes that sentiment.

“The IRVMC was designed to track CDCs so the COTP can detect threats to these CDCs, escort as needed, and provide appropriate levels of security to the crew, cargo and local community,” said Torok.

During Hurricanes Dennis, Katrina and Rita last summer, IRVMC personnel were actively involved in supporting their parent command from New Orleans. After the hurricanes, VTS-related vessel location information was not available, but IRVMC was able to provide a towboat COP to the command post in St. Louis and Corpus Christi. IRVMC personnel were assigned to the Incident Management Team commanding disaster response operations. One member was deployed into Louisiana with the command element in New Orleans.

The future continues to unfold. The larger Coast Guard vision is to make this Eighth and Ninth Coast Guard District asset into a truly national capability. Within the year, the Coast Guard's NAVCEN is expected to take ownership from the Eighth District.

Those involved say it has been exciting to be included in such an important part of what may become a national Coast Guard program. Reservists involved in IRVMC declare good support from both the District and Headquarters which has allowed them to shine.

A CHANGE IN YOUR HOLSTER

COAST GUARD REPLACES 9 MM BERRETTA
WITH .40 CALIBER SIG PISTOL



STORY BY PA2 JOHN EDWARDS AND PA1 KIMBERLY SMITH, PADET ATLANTIC CITY PHOTOS BY PA2 JOHN EDWARDS

Focused on the stationary target directly in front of them, 18-armed Coast Guard members stand side-by-side in a room. Their breath creates puffs of steam that linger for a moment and then dissipate as the temperature on the thermometer reads a bone chilling 25 degrees. A voice command booms over the intercom system and the room instantly erupts into the thunderous report of weapons fire. Seconds later, the acidic smell of cordite and heavy silence surround them as they lower their weapons and survey how true their aim was.

This is a scene that played itself out over and over again as Coast Guard men and women from Sector Delaware Bay, Stations Atlantic City, Philadelphia, Manasquan Inlet, Barnegat Light and Cape May, Coast Guard Cutters MAKO, FINBACK, and IBIS as well as reservists took on the challenge of qualifying with the Coast Guard's newest asset in law enforcement — the P229R-DAK .40 caliber (compact) handgun (SIG) manufactured by SIGARMS in Exeter, N.H. The SIG will be replacing the aging M9 9 mm Beretta pistols.

"This effort, spearheaded by the Office of Cutter Forces at Coast Guard Headquarters, took nearly two years and thousands of man hours," said LTJG John Strasburg, of the Small Arms Program under the Office of Homeland Security Policy & Tactics (G-RPC) in Headquarters. "The need for a replacement to the venerable M9 9 mm Beretta was identified in late 2003; the M9 had served the Coast Guard well as the standard service small arm since 1986, but wear and tear through the years and the Coast Guard's requirement for a larger caliber drove the change."

Strasburg explained that in 2004, a unique opportunity for the Coast Guard to pool handgun requirements with other DHS agencies brought this endeavor more visibility.

"A competitive solicitation and test of several firearms manufacturers led to DHS selecting SIGARMS as one of the contract winners," said Strasburg.

The year-long transition to the SIG began for the Coast Guard's Fifth District at Sector Delaware Bay in Philadelphia Nov. 28, 2005, in a 12-day mass training evolution. The training was conducted by GM1 Larry Muldowney, weapons petty officer for Sector Delaware Bay, and GMC Scott Fisher, supervisor of Atlantic Area Armory ordnance support facility in Portsmouth, Va., at the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Training Center's range facility located in Pomona, N.J.

Fisher and Muldowney, along with nine other small arms instructors from Atlantic Area and Sector Delaware Bay, worked approximately 1,100 hours instructing approximately 260 personnel through classroom materials and leading lines of fire that totaled 52,250 rounds of ammunition being fired at the range. The day began with three hours in the classroom that included practical demonstrations on field stripping, nomenclature, safety

function checks, and discussing the differences between the 9 mm and the SIG.

Following classroom training, students mustered at the range where they were given an opportunity to practice the Practical Pistol Course (PPC) one time before they tried to qualify, while at the same time, preparing the weapon for use per Coast Guard regulations. According to the regulations, 100 rounds of live ammunition must be shot through the weapon before it can be considered service ready.

"We learned through trial and error that the most efficient way to get the weapons ready to qualify was to give people a chance to familiarize themselves with the weapon," said Muldowney. "In the beginning, we tried giving them 100 rounds of ammo to shoot before qualifying, then 50 rounds, even 12 rounds, but we decided to give them one 50-round practice run before they could qualify."

Students were given a total of three chances (one practice, two for score) to qualify on the PPC. Out of the 260 students qualifying, 178, or 69 percent, successfully qualified during the scheduled training period. Of the 169 personnel who qualified over the course of the two weeks, 36 percent qualified in the first relay, 28 percent qualified during their second relay, and 34 percent qualified during their third relay. Non-qualifying members were encouraged to return to the range at a later date to try and qualify. Nine more members qualified after the pre-scheduled training period. Once the student was qualified with the .40 cal, they were no longer qualified with the 9 mm.

To ensure units could continue to conduct operations normally, the training for a unit was broken into two days.

"We would split the unit into two halves, and the first half would come in, qualify, and take the SIGs back to their units," Muldowney said. "The second half of the unit would come in the next day and bring all of the 9 mms to turn in."

A month before the weapons transition, Muldowney worked closely with the Atlantic Area Armory to arrange the ammunition, new weapons, holster distribution and a shooting schedule. The number of weapons and holsters given to each unit was equal to the number of weapons and holsters the units turned in. Accompanying each SIG weapon was 50 rounds of jacketed hollow point (JHP) and 50 rounds of ball ammunition.

In the past, units only carried ball ammunition for their 9 mms, but now unit members will be using ball and JHP ammunition.

"The .40 caliber JHP was approved by Commandant and will be used for law enforcement operations only," said Strasburg.

The ball ammunition can be used for defense operations or law enforcement operations. Frangible ammunition will only be used during training. Having two choices of



BM1 JAMES HOLSTON, STATION ATLANTIC CITY XPD, PRACTICES FIRING THE COAST GUARD'S NEWEST ASSET IN LAW ENFORCEMENT — THE .40 CALIBER SIG.

ammunition is not the only thing people in the field will have to get used to.

"We're going to change everything you know about shooting," said Fisher.

Unit crewmembers will have to adjust certain aspects of what they know about their weapons. For example, the SIG holds only a 12-round magazine as opposed to the 9 mm's 15-round magazine. One of the biggest changes is that the SIG does not have a safety de-cocking lever. The .40 caliber, like all SIG pistols, utilizes an automatic firing pin safety. This means the SIG operates without need of traditional safety control levers. It is a double-action semi-automatic and the first pull of the trigger, when the hammer is down, requires a double-action trigger pull which weighs in at 6.5 pounds-of-pressure. The SIG also has an intermediate double-action position, which is located at the triggers half way release point, and takes 8.5 pounds-of-pressure. The shooter has the option of shooting either intermediate or releasing the trigger fully for another 6.5 pound squeeze. Overall, when it comes to pulling the trigger on the new SIG, it takes more strength and muscle power to squeeze off a round.

If those changes aren't enough, then there is also the brand-new style of holster. The Safari Land 6004, the holster most commonly used during this training, is a drop-

down style holster that will be replacing the more commonly worn Uncle Mike holster in Sector Delaware Bay.

"The Safari Land was picked because of its retention level and loop," said Muldowney. "It's a solid holster."

Past shooting techniques indicated that personnel on the range used the top of the Uncle Mike as a reference to aim during the close quarter's line of fire. The Safari Land sits four inches below the belt line taking away that point of reference for the shooter. According to Sector Field Office Delaware Bay's after action report on the weapon transition, the change resulted in low shots.

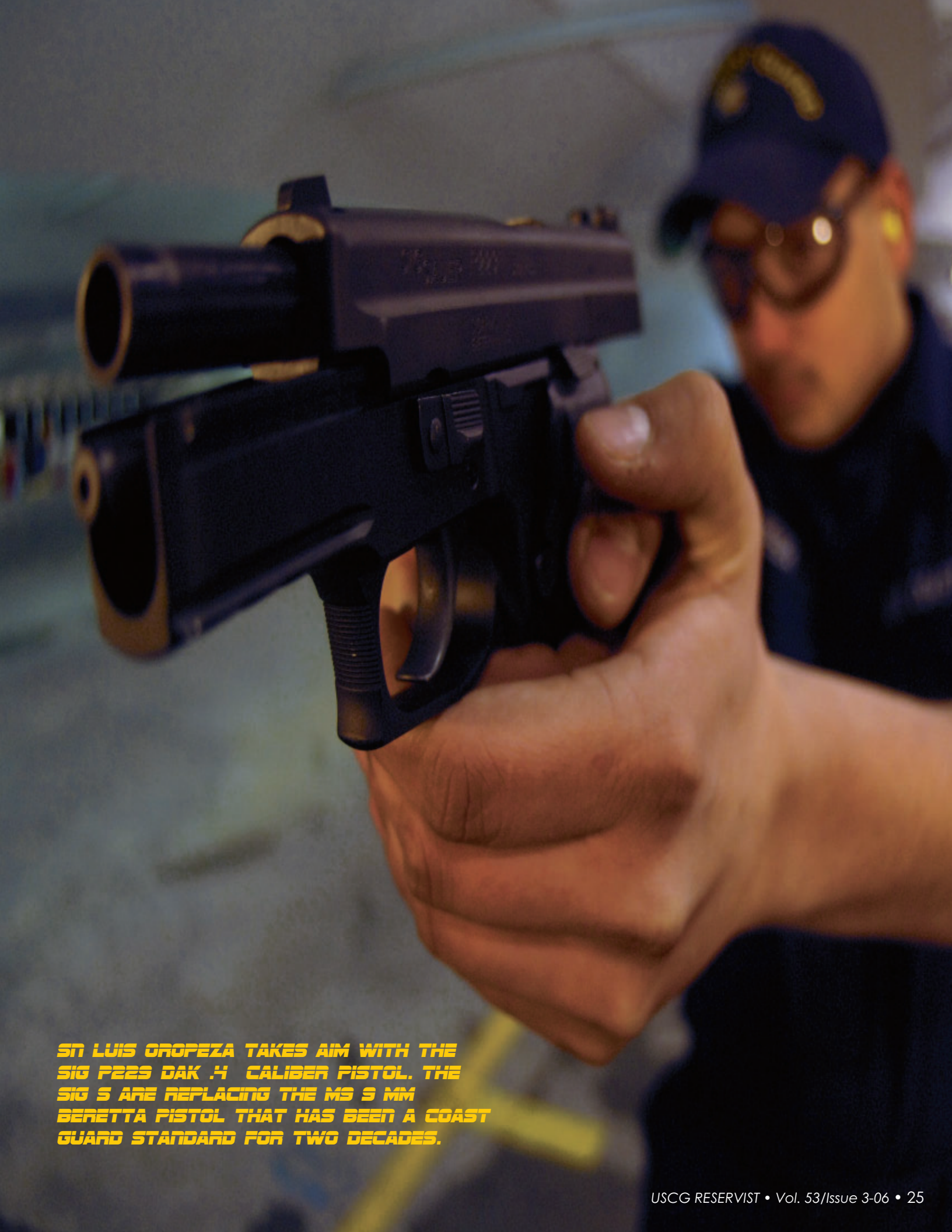
BM1 David Houg, weapons petty officer at Station Atlantic City, is optimistic about the new weapon.

"Although the weapon is heavier and smaller, it feels more substantial in my hand," he said.


Crews also seem to be responding positively about the weapon.

"The crews like the weapon and the larger bullets," Houg said. "If you have to shoot, you want something with some stopping power."

Over the course of this coming year, Coast Guard units all over the country will be bidding farewell after two decades to the M9 Beretta and becoming acquainted and comfortable with the newest asset in law enforcement — the .40 caliber SIG.



**SN LUIS OROPEZA TAKES AIM WITH THE
SIG P229 DAK .4 CALIBER PISTOL. THE
SIG S ARE REPLACING THE M9 9 MM
BERETTA PISTOL THAT HAS BEEN A COAST
GUARD STANDARD FOR TWO DECADES.**



The Los Angeles Lighthouse, also known as Angel's Gate, was built to withstand heavy seas. The 73-foot lighthouse is located at the mouth of Los Angeles' Long Beach port, one of the largest container ports in the world.

HALO REPLACEMENT

**KEEPING THE LIGHT ON, AT
ANGEL'S GATE LIGHTHOUSE**

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PA3 CHRIS GRISAFE, USCGR**

If you've ever owned a flashlight, you know that every now and then you have to change the batteries. Normally that isn't a big deal, but if the batteries you're working with weigh nearly 200 pounds and the light you're changing is located offshore, the task may be a bit more challenging, and definitely not your "run-of-the-mill" job.

The Los Angeles Lighthouse, known as Angel's Gate, is anything but ordinary. Situated on a 40-foot concrete square at the end of a 9,250-foot breakwater made up of nearly 3 million tons of rock, Angel's Gate Lighthouse is a beacon to one of the largest container ports in the world.

Though the light is unique, it is just one of 182 navigational aids the Coast Guard's Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) in Los Angeles is responsible for maintaining. The 13-member team, composed of eight active duty, one reservist and four auxiliaries, services Angel's Gate at least four times a year. However, changing the batteries is less frequent.

"It's been about 10 years since the Coast Guard last changed the batteries on Angel's Gate," said EM3 Bart Gaska of the ANT.

To make the change requires coordination between people and assets. The ANT first had to order the batteries which took about six months to manufacture. The batteries are too large for the ANT's small boat to carry, requiring help from the crew of the CGC GEORGE COBB, a 175-foot buoy tender. The GEORGE COBB is equipped with a crane enabling its crew to transfer the large batteries to and from the lighthouse.

"Changing out batteries is a challenging job," said BMC David Bullard, Officer in Charge of the ANT. "To get almost 200-pound batteries from a floating object to a pier, off load six batteries, then load six more, and actually get the batteries up to the light house — it's a big job."

Once the batteries were transferred to the lighthouse, the ANT took over.



EM3 Bart Gaska helps install a new battery charge controller in Angel's Gate Lighthouse. The ANT team overhauled the electrical system within 13 hours.

"We did a major overhaul of the light," said Gaska, "replacing all the wires for the power system, the batteries, and installing a battery charge controller system so that the batteries get recharged with a balanced flow of electricity."

About 13 hours later, the overhaul was complete.

"This specific job is not part of everyone's normal routine, so for everything to go as smoothly as it did required good prep work," said Bullard. "There was great teamwork by the crew to get it done. It was a long day, but they did an excellent job. We installed maintenance-free batteries that have an expected life span of 20 years. So the next time we need to change these batteries I'll be retired. We'll all be retired!"



EM3 Robert Skora rewires a solar panel on Angel's Gate Lighthouse as part ANT LA-LB's overhaul of the electrical system.

In Brief

• **ADDRESS CHANGES** — When updating your address in Direct Access, there are two different address fields you must change — both a home address as well as a mailing address. Please ensure both are updated. For example, a member's home address is a street address but mailing address is a post office box. Personnel Service Center (PSC) receives many calls from members stating they are not receiving any correspondence from the Coast Guard since they moved. In researching these inquiries, PSC has found that the home address has been updated but the mailing address has not. Questions may be directed PSC(ras), 1-800-772-8724, ext. 3412; E-mail: pac-ras@hrsic.uscg.mil



• **GRANTS FOR COASTIE KIDS** — Children of Coast Guard Reservists who are currently mobilized under Title 10 of the U.S. Code can apply for grants of up to \$500 for youth sports, fine arts and tutoring programs through Our Military Kids Inc. The McLean, Va.-based, non-profit organization is funding a wide range of extracurricular activities for National Guard and Reserve kids in grades K-12 thanks to contributions from corporations, charitable foundations and individual donors. Grants are paid directly to service providers within 10 business days, with children receiving a congratulatory package. Detailed information and applications are available online at: www.ourmilitarykids.org

• **SPARKS AWARD NOMINATIONS** — This annual award is presented by the Reserve Officers Association to the Coast Guard unit judged to be the most supportive of a totally integrated Coast Guard force, demonstrated by its effective use of Coast Guard Reservists. Nomination packages must be submitted to COMDT (CG-131) no later than May 12, 2006. For more info, see ALCOAST 061/06 or contact LTJG Greg Reilly, 202-267-0192, E-mail: greilly@comdt.uscg.mil

• **SUMMERSTOCK 2006** — Summerstock is an excellent opportunity for fully qualified boat crew members to work at Coast Guard stations on the Great Lakes. It's also ideal for students and teachers seeking full-time summer employment. There are 34 total billets available: Sector Buffalo (11); Sector Grand Haven (four); Sector Lake Michigan (13); Sector Detroit (six). For more info, contact YNC Patricia Feeney, D9(dre) at 216-902-6095; Fax: 216-902-6098; E-mail: patricia.feeney@uscg.mil



• **SAIL ABOARD CGC EAGLE IN 2006** — The CGC EAGLE will sail on its annual cadet training cruise until Sept. 1, 2006. EAGLE's primary mission during this deployment is to train future Coast Guard officers at sea. To sail on America's Tall Ship is a memorable experience and an opportunity to help shape and train the future leaders of our Coast Guard. Volunteers are needed in the following ratings to augment the ship's permanent crew: BM, DC, FS, HS, IT, MK, PA. Additionally, one CPO is needed to serve as Master-At-Arms. Active duty or reserve personnel (male or female)

may apply for all or any portions of this deployment. However, preference is given to those qualified personnel who volunteer for longer periods. Interested PACAREA personnel should contact YN1 Kahoonei at 510-437-3517; interested LANTAREA personnel should contact CWO Hargrove at 757-628-4496. An alternate application method is to access the following Coast Guard Web site and submit a TDY application form; be sure to include CGC EAGLE in the "Unit/Assignment Desired" block: <http://webapps.mlca.uscg.mil/pdiv/forceops/volunteers/default.cfm>

• **TANEY MAINTENANCE ENGINEER WANTED** — Baltimore Maritime Museum is looking for a maintenance engineer for the historic ship USCGC TANEY, Lightship 116 CHESAPEAKE and USS TORSK. This is a great retirement job with flexible hours and ideally suited to a retired Machinists Mate (MK), possibly electrician, or a retired Yard technician with experience. Successful applicant needs knowledge and experience with HVAC, plumbing and shipboard electrical. For more info, contact Mr. Paul Cora, Curator, Baltimore Maritime Museum, USCGC TANEY, 701 E. Pratt St., Pier 5, Baltimore, MD 21202, 410-382-0200; FAX: 410-396-3393; E-mail: paul@baltmaritimemuseum.org

• **ATTENTION ILLINOIS RESERVISTS** — The College of Business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) has partnered with the State of Illinois to award up to 110 new academic scholarships for Illinois-based military veterans and active duty military personnel. The scholarships offer veterans who qualify an opportunity to receive free tuition while earning an MBA degree. For more info on the Executive MBA Program, visit www.mba.illinois.edu/veterans, or call Robert van der Hoening at 312-575-7905.

• **OPERATION PURPLE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM** — The National Military Family Association (NMFA) has developed a free week of summer fun for kids with deployed parents. Campers from all service branches will gather together to experience a memorable week of camp fun with a focus on learning coping skills to better deal with a parent's deployment. In



2006, camps will be held in Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Idaho, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin. Families are encouraged to apply to the location closest to their home as transportation costs are not covered. Deadline for registration is May 15. Applications, forms, and details on each camp location are available at the NMFA Web site: www.nmfa.org. For more info, see ALCOAST 155/06.

• **WRITE A RETIRED SHIPMATE** — CWO4 (PERS) Ralph Hawkins, USCGR(Ret.) is currently in long-term medical care and would love to hear from his shipmates. Hawkins enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve back on Sept. 9, 1964, and was a member of Company Foxtrot 56, having served extensively within the First Coast Guard District. His contact info: CWO4 Ralph Hawkins, Room 123, c/o Springside of Pittsfield LTCF, 255 Lebanon Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201; 413-499-2334 (ask for Room 123).

Upcoming Events

MAY 2006

• **NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK** — May 20-26. For info, contact National Safe Boating Council, P.O. Box 509, Bristow, VA 20136; 703-361-4294; Fax: 703-361-5294; E-mail: campaign@safeboatingcouncil.org Web: www.safeboatingcouncil.org

• **COMMANDANT'S CHANGE OF COMMAND** — Thursday, May 25, 11 a.m., Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C. (next door to Coast Guard Headquarters). For info, contact the ceremony project officer, LCDR Sandra Miracle, 202-267-0477, E-mail: smiracle@comdt.uscg.mil

• **MEMORIAL DAY** — Monday, May 29. For a short history of Memorial Day, see the May 1999 edition of *The Reservist*.

JUNE 2006

• **CGC MACKINAW (WAGB-83) DECOMMISSIONING / CGC MACKINAW COMMISSIONING (WLBB-30)** — Saturday, June 10, 1 p.m. Millard D. Olds Moorings, Cheboygan, Mich. Old MACKINAW: 231-627-3181; New MACKINAW: 231-597-2030.

• **MCPOCG CHANGE OF WATCH & RETIREMENT** — Wednesday, June 14, 10 a.m., TISCOM Alexandria, Va. MCPO Skip Bowen will relieve MCPOCG Frank Welch as the tenth Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard. For info, contact MCPO Ray Capezzuto, 202-267-2397; E-mail: rcapezzuto@comdt.uscg.mil

• **COAST GUARD AUXILIARY BIRTHDAY** — It's number 67 for the all-volunteer Coast Guard Auxiliary on Friday, June 23. Each year, auxiliarists volunteer more than two million hours benefiting boaters. Auxiliary Web site: www.cgaux.org

• **USCG INNOVATION EXPO** — June 26-28, Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, Fla. The theme is "Preparedness – International, Federal, State, Local and Private Partnerships to Achieve Domain Integration." For more info, see ALCOAST 084/06 or contact CDR Jay Hawthorne, 202-267-2771 or Mr. Fred Hooghhouse, 202-267-2130. Both may be reached via E-mail at: innovation@comdt.uscg.mil. Web (under Meetings and Events): <http://www.ndia.org/>



JULY 2006

• **2006 COAST GUARD INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT** — Sponsored by CG Headquarters, July 5-8, 2006 "The Homestead", Hot Springs, Va., ranked among the world's finest golf and spa resorts. The tournament package includes three nights of lodging, four rounds of golf (on three different courses), and two banquets. Open to all active duty, reserve, retired, auxiliary, and civilian personnel of the Coast Guard as well as their



dependents and guests. Sign-up deadline is April 28, 2006. For more info, see COMDTNOTE 1710 at www.uscg.mil/ccs/cit/cim/directives/CN/CN_1710_2005_11_21.pdf or contact Dr. Mike Parnarouskis, (703) 368-7049; E-mail: mikep1121@comcast.net

• **ROA NATIONAL CONVENTION** — July 19-22, San Antonio, Texas, Marriott Rivercenter Hotel. Contact Reserve Officers Association, 1 Constitution Ave. N.E., Washington, DC 20002; 202-479-2200; Web: <http://www.roa.org/>

• **COAST GUARD FESTIVAL** — July 28-Aug. 6 in Grand Haven, Mich., Coast Guard City, USA! For all current and former Coast Guard men, women, SPARs, auxiliarists, reservists and civilian employees. Parade, birthday picnic and fireworks are Saturday, Aug. 5. Reunion groups are welcomed and accommodated. For info, contact: CDR M.J. Smith, USCG(Ret.), U.S. Coast Guard Festival Inc., 113 N. Second St., Grand Haven, MI 49417; 616-846-5940; 1-888-207-2434; E-mail: cgfexdirector@chartermi.net; Web: <http://www.ghcgfest.org/>



AUGUST 2006

• **COAST GUARD DAY** — Is Friday, Aug. 4th! What is your unit planning to commemorate the Coast Guard's 216th birthday?

• **DUNK FAN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT** — Spend Coast Guard Day playing basketball in memory of PO Brian Colletti, Aug. 4-5, in Fayetteville, N.C. For more info, contact Lynda Simmons, 572 Andover Road, Fayetteville, NC 28311; 910-488-0476; E-mail: lsimmons@nc.rr.com; Web: www.brian-eddie-colletti.memory-of.com. For a review of last year's event, see *The Reservist*, Issue 8-05, Page 18.

• **38th ANNUAL COAST GUARD CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONVENTION** — Aug. 14-18, Marriott Center, Indianapolis, Ind. Convention chairman is CWO William Giessman, USCGR (Ret.). When making reservations, make sure you mention the CPOA. Web: <http://www.uscgcpoa.org/0-main/convention/2006/2006-annual-convention.htm>



• **PORT HURON COAST GUARD APPRECIATION DAYS** — Aug. 25-27, Port Huron Mich. Activities include a Memorial Service at International Flag Plaza Friday, Aug. 25. On Saturday, Aug. 26, tour USCG Station Port Huron, CGC HOLLYHOCK and decommissioned CGC BRAMBLE, Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, museum lightship HURON, Port Huron Museum and more. The Seaway Terminal will host a Saturday evening dinner to honor local active and retired Coast Guard members. For more info, send e-mail to: dmort@arenet.net; Web: www.porthuron.org (go to "Visitors" and scroll down to CG Days at Aug. 25-27).

OCTOBER 2006

• **RESERVE SERVICE WIDE EXAMINATION** — Mark your calendar if you're planning to take the test! This year's date is Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006! Deadline for paperwork (EOCTs, marks, etc.) is July 1, 2006.

Advancements

Reserve Enlisted Advancements

Effective Feb. 1, 2006

*From Enlisted Reserve Advancement
Announcement (ERAA) No. 2-06,
ALCGPERSCOM 009/06*

BOATSWAIN'S MATE(BM)

BM1 S P CROSSAN
BM1 K M MCCONVILLE
BM1 C A WAGNER

HEALTH SERVICES TECHNICIAN (HS)

HS1 V M RAMIREZ 007895

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN (MK)

MKC K E NIEMANN
MK1 A E FAZIO
MK1 D N MILLER
MK1 A R STEELE
MK2 P D LYNCH
MK2 J R DOWELL
MK2 M A BLACK

MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN (MST)

MSTC G B KESTER
MSTC T E CARPENTIER
MST1 L M WARE
MST2 B A HAYES
MST2 J M BIGLER

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST (OS)

OSC J A GORDON
OSC B J ODOWD

Effective March 1, 2006

*From Enlisted Reserve Advancement
Announcement (ERAA) No. 3-06,
ALCGPERSCOM 016/06*

BOATSWAIN'S MATE(BM)

BMCS J D WARNER
BMCS R S COCHRAN
BMCS W D SIMPSON
BMC W C REIMER
BM1 W E DAVIS

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN(ET)

ETC T C VILLANI

GUNNER'S MATE(GM)

GM2 O K BAYNESS

INFORMATION SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN (IT)

ITCS S M BLANEY

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN(MK)

MKC R W ARNOLD
MKC D A CELLI
MK1 P C STITZINGER
MK1 W ZINCHUCK
MK1 J E DEC
MK2 A FAZIO
MK2 C L RYMUT
MK2 R E WATSON
MK2 J E BRUNS
MK2 S G FILIPE

MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN(MST)

MSTC G A DENNIS
MST1 S K GARRETSON
MST2 K L WOLFE

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST(PS)

PSC D I BULLOCK
PSC J M THOMPSON
PSC C W FLEMING
PS3 J B JONES

STOREKEEPER(SK)

SK2 J R JASPER
SK2 M G FARRIS
SK2 G TONNA

YEOMAN(YN)

YNC C M OSTROM
YN3 C R YORK

*Questions should be directed to
YNC Jeff Pilkington,
jpilkington@hrsic.uscg.mil or
785-339-3410.*

Effective April 1, 2006

*From Enlisted Reserve Advancement
Announcement (ERAA) No. 4-06,
ALCGPERSCOM 022/06*

BOATSWAIN'S MATE(BM)

BMCS J L ROMERO
BMC J P MARSCHHAUSER
BMC K W CASS
BMC R D HOLLAND
BM1 G F BLUHM
BM2 C J PITTARELLI
BM2 W C PISHA
BM2 S T WINSTON

MACHINERY TECHNICIAN(MK)

MKC S MARSH
MKC J P RANDAZZO
MK1 S J FORTIN
MK1 E A BENDER
MK1 C R TAYLOR
MK1 P E SMITH
MK1 S A HARLEY

MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN(MST)

MST2 G LORECK
MST2 C T CULLETO

OPERATIONS SPECIALIST (OS)

OSC C W NIESTEROWICZ
OSC M H BAVASSO

PORT SECURITY SPECIALIST(PS)

PSCS T W MCCOOK
PSC R W YOUNG
PSC B J COLEMAN
PS1 C M GRADY
PS1 S A WOODWARD

STOREKEEPER(SK)

SK2 G J CARICH
SK2 B S CUEVA

YEOMAN(YN)

YNC D P TELLES
YN3 M D CROSBY



MCPO Roger Grinnell, left, and CWO4 Thomas Guthlein, Commanding Officer, Station Castle Hill, R.I., right, advance BM1 William Saunders, center, to E-7 (above),



as well as, pin E-4 chevrons on Natalie Fontenault, (above, center) . The pinnings took place Jan. 28, 2006 at Station Castle Hill's training room.

Photos by BM3 James Macdonald, USCG

Medals and Awards

Meritorious Service Medal

Sector Key West, Fla.
CAPT Mark Jones

NCWS 21

CAPT John P. Madeira Jr.

MLCLANT

HSCS Gregory T. Kaszubowski

Joint Service Commendation Medal

PACOM

CDR Robert W. Ritchie

Coast Guard Commendation Medal

Sector San Francisco

CDR Marilea Lloyd
CWO4 Matthew Bucala,
CWO4 Leonard Woolard
PSCS Leon Artac
MSTC Mark Rea
BM1 David Hardy
MK1 David Haydis

RAID Team

MST1 William Scott
Gardner

Joint Service Achievement Medal

PSU 305 GTMO Detachment

ET1 Robert Pester

Coast Guard Achievement Medal

D7

BMCS Armand H. Chagnon

Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon

Sector San Francisco

LT Kenneth Baltz
OSCS Garna Daigle

Reserve Good Conduct Medal

Sector San Francisco

MSTC Gregory Kester, (6th)
MKC Stephen Post, (4th)
MKC Robert Taylor, (4th)
MK1 Raymond Sanderson, (4th)
DC2 James Petrini, (1st)
EM2 David Brogan, (1st)
MK2 Mark Wickman, (3rd)
SK2 Dwight Wilson, (1st)
YN2 Andrew Kirsch, (1st)
DC3 Randy Pierson, (1st)
SN Jeremy Skidmore, (1st)



Photo by MSG Stephen A. Miller, JTF-GTMO

BMC Robert Jenks, USCGR, stands amidst his PSU 305 shipmates at the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba bathhouse after receiving his ninth Good Conduct Award for his 35-plus years service. The chief has been with PSU 305 eight years and is currently deployed to GTMO with PSU 305.

YN1 Jon Hinderliter, second from left, recently received a Navy League of the United States, St. Louis Council, 2005 Award of Excellence in ceremonies at USTRANSCOM in St. Louis. Pictured are CAPT Deborah Dombeck, Commanding Officer of CGRU USTRANSOM; Hinderliter; his wife, Iris; and CDR Don Hughes, Executive Officer of CGRU, USTRANSCOM.



Photo courtesy of CGRU USTRANSOM



RADM Charles Wurster, D14 Commander, second from left, presented PS1 Vernon Thomsen, second from right, with a CG Meritorious Team Commendation for serving on the Natural Disaster Response Team from 2003-2005. Looking on are LT James Dupureur, far left, and PS1 Timothy Woodard, far right. Dupureur, Thomsen, and Woodard are reservists serving on active duty.

Photo courtesy of LT James M Dupureur, USCGR

Retirements

RET-1 (Retired With Pay)

JANUARY 2006

BMC Henry C. Whitfield

FEBRUARY 2006

CAPT Richard R. Clark
CAPT John H. Legwin
CDR Michael T. Kane
CDR Robert G. Most
LCDR Edward V. Johnson
LCDR Joseph E. Staier
LT James G. Laures
CWO4 David J. Gorski
CWO4 Ross D. Oswald
BMCS George E. Gadsby
MKC Russell J. Hornik
MKC Francis D. Kirkstad
MSTC Robert F. Eboli
PSC Patrick R. Lemagie
PSC Joseph R. Mintner Jr.
PSC Tim A. Reder
PSC Pete Q. Quiane
PSC Nicholas J. Sheyka
YNC Mary S. Fulcher
YNC Nancy D. Knuth
EM1 Robert J. Vromam
MK1 Donald P. Fried

MK1 Arthur G. Patterson
OS1 Richard G. Portwine
PS1 George F. Innes
YN1 Rodney G. Debban
BM2 Paul J. Byrd
MK2 Patrick P. Carroll
MK2 Robert A. Corell
MK2 Joseph R. Schiffer
PS2 Manfred Meiners
MST3 John A. Rizzi

RET-2 (Retired Awaiting Pay)

JANUARY 2006

MKC George E. Deitrich, CGPC
MK1 Jarge Castillo, D8
PS1 Abel Barrera, D8

FEBRUARY 2006

CAPT Roslyn D. Burbank, D8
CDR Janet B. Gammon, D7
CDR Jonathan L. Wood, D1
LCDR Marc S. Pryor, PACAREA
LCDR Brent L. Spencer, D9
BMCS David A. Doerning, D11
BMCS Russell F. Lindblad, D5
YNCS Jeffrey W. Gorham, D5
BMC Olen F. Paschall Jr., CGPC

BMC Michael G. Pelletier, CGPC
BMC Kim B. Richards, CGPC
IVC Frederick A. Tredy, CGIS
MKC Bruce D. Hoffman, MLCAPAC
MKC William G. Lange, CGPC
PSC Cas W. Donnell, CGPC
PSC Henry M. Falgouist Jr., D8
PSC Steven R. Golda, D11
PSC Nicholas J. Sheyka, CGPC
AET1 Lester K. Baines Jr. CGPC
DC1 Bernard J. Eckel, PACAREA
FS1 Donald R. Ahrens, D13
MK1 Thomas A. Woodard, CGPC
MST1 Glenn E. Stofer, D7
OS1 Louis F. Calumpit, PACAREA
YN1 Richard D. Biggs, D13
YN1 Donald R. Stephens Jr., D8
MK2 Anthony D. Mazziott, CGPC
SK2 Linda A. Day, D5
BM3 Gregory N. Collins, D8
FN Kimble R. McNeal, D7

Retirement Correction: MSTCS Roy H. McKinney was listed in the January 2006 RET-1 list in Issue 2-06. His pending retirement date is now September 2006.

Source: Ms. Lynn Couch, Personnel Service Center (RAS)

• **RADM Alfred P. Manning, USCG(Ret.)**, 77, Feb. 19, 2006, in Seattle. A native of Cambridge, Mass., he enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1946 and served aboard CGC CHATAQUA before reporting as a cadet to the Coast Guard Academy in 1947. He graduated in 1951 with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He then served on CGC DUANE, EASTWIND, and GENTIAN. After two years as gunnery instructor at OCS, he earned a master's degree in electrical engineering in 1958. He then commanded LORAN Station Simeri Cricchi, Italy, followed by a stint as a LORAN-C engineer at the Electronic Engineering Center in Wildwood, N.J. In the mid-1960s, he served as Chief, Engineering Division, Activities Europe, in London, England. He then earned another master's degree in maritime administration from the University of Rhode Island and graduated from the

Naval War College, before assuming command of Coast Guard Base Honolulu. Promoted to rear admiral in 1978, he served as Chief, Operations Division for the Thirteenth District in Seattle. Other assignments included Chief, Office of Research and Development at Headquarters, Eleventh District Commander, and Fourteenth District Commander. He retired in 1987 after 41 years service. RADM Manning is survived by his spouse, Claire; daughters, Carol and Maureen; two grandchildren, Paul and Elizabeth. A Mass and memorial service were held Feb. 23, 2006, at Saint Monica Catholic Church, Mercer Island, Wash. Interment took place at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va. Feb. 28, 2006. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to a favorite charity in the name of RADM Manning.

• **CAPT Glen N. Armitage, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 16, 2006, in Albany, N.Y. Survived by his spouse, Esther Armitage. Interment Saratoga, N.Y.

• **CAPT Eleanor T. Cooley, USCGR(Ret.)**, 89, March 12, 2006, in Andover, Mass. Born in Takoma Park, Md., she was a graduate of Boston University and Marietta College in Ohio, class of 1938. She served more than 20 years in the USCG and USCGR. As a civilian, she had been employed as an administrator. An avid collector of antiques, she enjoyed spending summers in Warner, N.H. Survived by two nieces Ellen DeCaro and Pamela Grieco. Services were private.

• **CAPT John O. Hoyt, USCGR(Ret.)**, Feb. 16, 2006, in Montgomery, Texas. Survived by his spouse, Barbara Hoyt.

• **CAPT James M. Kennelly Jr., USCGR(Ret.)**, Jan. 18, 2006, in Short Hills, N.J. Survived by his spouse, Louisa Ann Kennelly.



RADM Alfred P. Manning

• **CAPT Frederick A. Smith, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 6, 2006, in St. Petersburg, Fla. Survived by his spouse, Adelaide Smith.

• **CDR Carter T. Gunn, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 12, 2006, in Virginia Beach, Va. Survived by his spouse, Bobbi Gunn. Interment Virginia Beach, Va.

• **CDR Fred R. Mullins, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 14, 2006, in Sonoma, Calif. Survived by his spouse, Donna Mullins.

• **LCDR Douglas S. Neeb, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 6, 2006, in New London, Conn. Survived by his spouse, Barbara Neeb. Interment Cranberry, N.J.

• **LCDR Carl F. Overman, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 20, 2006, in Elizabeth City, N.C. Survived by his spouse, Lucie Overman. Interment Elizabeth City, N.C.

• **LCDR William M. Rosenfeld, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 4, 2006, in Rye Brook, N.Y. Interment in Rye, N.Y.

• **LCDR Harry L. Toyne, USCGR(Ret.)**, March 6, 2006, in Roseville, Calif. Survived by his spouse, Barbara Toyne.

• **CWO4 Robert R. Abbott Jr., USCGR(Ret.)**, Feb. 20, 2006, in Englewood, Colo. Survived by his spouse, Nancy Abbott.

• **CWO4 William A. Bechtel, USCGR(Ret.)**, 77, Feb. 21, 2006, in Rockville, Md. He was a plankowner at COTP Philadelphia, Base Gloucester, N.J. and served there for more than 30 years. He served as a boat crew instructor and also supported the Coast Guard's participation at the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Va. Services were private. Interment at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va.

• **CWO4 George R. Senn Jr., USCGR(Ret.)**, Feb. 8, 2006, in Crystal River, Fla. Interment Bourne, Mass.

• **FIC Lawrence E. Kitts, USCGR(Ret.)**, Feb. 12, 2006, at Scott Depot, W.Va. Survived by his spouse, Vaughna Kitts. Interment Sunset Memorial Park, Charleston, W.Va.

• **GMC Fred R. Souza, USCGR(Ret.)**, Feb. 6, 2006, in Calais, Maine.

• **MKC Brian A. Agaman, USCGR(Ret.)**, 53, May 28, 2005. He was born and raised in Jersey City, N.J. He served 24 years in the USCG, which included service at Reserve Unit Boothbay Harbor, Maine, and a tour in Vietnam. He is survived by Susan Agaman, his spouse of 15 years; children, Brian Jr., Gabriel, and Travis; three brothers, Bernard, Joseph, and Kevin; four sisters, Mary Jesberger, Patricia Bradley, Karen Kuzminski, and Maureen Agaman; one granddaughter, KayLa Ann Agaman; many nieces and nephews. A funeral Mass was held June 2, 2005 at Our Lady of Victory Church, Centerville, Mass. There will be a remembrance service May 28, 2006 at the Ocean Point

Chapel in Boothbay Harbor, Maine. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 549, Hyannis, MA 02601.

• **MKC Victor R. Straubinger, USCGR(Ref.),** Jan. 31, 2006. Survived by his spouse, Marsha Straubinger.

• **MKC Irwin L. Winowiecki, USCGR(Ref.),** Feb. 11, 2006, in Traverse City, Mich. Survived by his spouse, Joyce Winowiecki.

• **PSC Andrew C. Aguilar, USCGR(Ref.),** 62, of Santa Rosa, Calif., March 21, 2006, surrounded by family and friends. Andrew was born in 1943, and was a firefighter in Santa Rosa for 33 years. He also served in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve for 26 years, receiving many awards including the Coast Guard Commendation Medal. Chief Aguilar was an avid supporter of the environment. He helped create the Coast Guard's Sea Partners program to protect the ocean ecosystem and designed and built customized watershed dioramas to visually demonstrate how every individual can protect the waterways. He especially loved speaking to young people and showing them how everyone can help protect our environment. He served as a Puente Program mentor at Santa Rosa Junior College and often spoke at schools and educational conferences. He was a dedicated peace activist, talented photographer, naturalist, involved citizen, vegetarian, educator, mentor, animal lover, kind-hearted caregiver, and an adventurous, free-spirited soul. A strong believer in giving back to his community, his family would like to continue his legacy by requesting that anyone choosing to make a donation in Chief Aguilar's memory direct them to the Redwood Empire Food Bank/Fresh Produce Program, 3320 Industrial Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.



• **TTC William H. Quick, USCGR(Ref.),** Dec. 4, 2005, in Daytona Beach, Fla. Interment Lakewood, N.J. Survived by his spouse, Elizabeth Quick.

• **IV1 Irwin A. Bock, USCGR(Ref.),** March 9, 2006, in Hoffman Estates, Ill. Survived by his spouse, Carol Bock.

• **IV1 Edward J. Hanson, USCGR(Ref.),** Feb. 25, 2006, in Shelton, Mass. Interment Tahoma National Cemetery, Kent, Wash.

• **PS1 Philip E. Keyerleber, USCGR(Ref.),** Feb. 7, 2006, in Mentor, Ohio. Interment Chardon, Ohio. Survived by his spouse, Mariam Keyerleber.

• **PS1 Larry D. Lagrand, USCGR(Ref.),** Jan. 22, 2006, in Beaumont, Texas. Survived by his spouse, Elizabeth Lagrand. Interment Silsbee, Texas.

• **PS1 Jon W. Littlefield, USCGR(Ref.),** Feb. 20, 2006, in Portland, Maine. Survived by his spouse, Margaret Littlefield. Interment pending Cape Elizabeth, Maine.



• **EM2 Steven C. Adler Sr., USCGR(Ref.),** Dec 1, 2005, in Jacksonville, Fla. He was a veteran of the Vietnam Conflict and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was the lighthouse keeper for the St. Augustine Lighthouse in Florida for the past 15 years. He also was deacon of the Fruit Cove Baptist Church and commissioner and coach for the Upward Basketball program. He served as a volunteer firefighter at Hogan Spring-Glen Volunteer Fire Department. His oldest son, Steven Jr., served beside

him in the Coast Guard, and his youngest son, David, serves as a firefighter with the Jacksonville Fire Department. He retired in July 2004 after 28 years of combined service in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. He is survived by his spouse, Paulette; sons Steven Jr. and David; grandsons Justin and Dawson.

• **PS2 Astor G. Hurley, USCGR(Ref.),** March 20, 2006, in Richmond, Va. Survived by his spouse, Georgette Hurley.

• **BM3 James Brian (Gibson) Socktomah, USCGR,** 33, Feb. 11, 2006, unexpectedly at his residence in Sipayik, Maine. Born Feb. 18, 1972, in Honolulu, Hawaii, he graduated from Lee Academy in 1990 and Maine Criminal Justice Academy in 1997. He served in the New Hampshire Army National Guard, the Maine Army National Guard, the U.S. Navy and active duty in Afghanistan in the U.S. Army. He was currently serving as a BM3 in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve at Station Eastport, Maine. He loved the outdoors, canoe trips, looking for big moose, and his canine companion, Muwin. He is survived by his mother, Madonna Socktomah; father, Carmen Dwayne Gibson; one daughter, Brooke Sipusis Cleaves; one brother, David; four sisters, Patricia Houghton, Susan Holmes, Debra Doll and Jessica Gibson; paternal grandmother, Jesse Bell Gibson; seven aunts, four uncles, several nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral Mass was held Feb. 16, 2006, at St. Anne's Catholic Church, Pleasant Point, Maine. Interment at the Tribal Cemetery in Maine. The Cobscook Community Learning Center intends to honor him with a Jimmy Socktomah Memorial Fund.

• **G. William Miller,** 81, March 17, 2006, in Washington, D.C. Born March 9, 1925, in Sapulpa, Okla., he graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1945, and served in the Coast Guard until 1949, attaining the rank of lieutenant. He then graduated from the University of California's Berkeley Law School in 1952. He began working for Rhode Island-based Textron in 1956, rose to president in 1960, and chairman in 1974. Under President Carter, he served as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board in 1978, and was appointed Secretary of the Treasury a year later serving until the end of President Carter's term in January 1981. As Treasury Secretary, he supervised the Chrysler Corp. Loan Guarantee Board. He is survived by his spouse, Ariadna; three sisters; and two brothers.



The ABCs of Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance

By LTJG Thomas R. Grose, USCGR

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) is a program of low cost group life insurance for service members on active duty, ready reservists, members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service, cadets and midshipmen of the four service academies and members of the Reserve Officer Training Corps.

SGLI provides group term life insurance. Term life insurance is a type of life insurance that is temporary, as it covers only a specific period of time. It pays a death benefit to the beneficiary or beneficiaries if a service member dies while the insurance is in force. If the service member lives past that period and doesn't renew the policy, or if they stop paying the premium, the coverage ends and no payment is made.

Service members are automatically covered for the maximum amount of insurance (\$400,000) on the first day of active duty or active duty for training, unless the service member elects to decline or reduce coverage. SGLI premiums are currently \$.065 per \$1,000 of insurance, regardless of the member's age. For those performing duty for a period of less than 31 days, part-time coverage begins on the first day of the period of duty, including travel. If you previously declined and later apply for SGLI, coverage will be effective on the date the application form is received by your branch of service.

Those eligible for SGLI are covered during the following periods:

• Full Time Coverage — Active Duty

Full-time members on active duty are covered 365 days of the year. Coverage is in effect during the period of active duty or inactive duty training and for 120 days following separation of release from duty.

• Full Time Coverage — Reserve Duty

Full-time coverage is in effect 365 days of the year for reservists assigned to units where they are scheduled to perform at least 12 periods of inactive duty that are creditable for retirement purposes. They are also covered for 120 days following separation or release from duty.

• Part Time Coverage

Part-time coverage is provided for reservists who do not qualify for full-time coverage as described above. Part-time coverage generally applies to reservists who drill only a few days in a year. A common example is members of the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) who drill for points.

SGLI coverage is automatic — there is no need to apply for it. However, service members who previously elected to decline or reduce SGLI coverage and later decide they want coverage may request such coverage in writing through your uniformed service. A member needs to complete and sign application form SGLI 8285, Request for Insurance, in the presence of a representative from your uniformed service.

Traumatic Injury Protection Insurance

ALCOAST 623/05 announced the start of a new program for all members participating in the SGLI program. The new program, Traumatic Injury Protection Insurance, known as Traumatic SGLI (TSGLI), will provide payments to servicemembers who are severely injured due to a traumatic event. The purpose of this program is to provide payment as quickly as possible to severely injured servicemembers so their families can be with them for the extended periods of time necessary for their recovery.

TSGLI will provide payments of \$25,000 to \$100,000 to members who sustain specific traumatic injuries. Details of covered injuries are addressed in ALCOAST 623/05. The policy does not cover illness, such as cancer, mental health issues, intentionally self-inflicted injury, or medical/surgical treatment of illness. A loss is not covered when the traumatic event is directly attributable to being under the influence of an illegal or controlled substance unless administered on the advice of a doctor.

The additional cost of this coverage will only be \$1 per month for any level of SGLI coverage. Members may have seen a slight increase in deductions on the Dec. 15, 2005 Leave and Earnings Statement. The description in the "Deductions" block on the LES will continue to be either SGLI or SGLI/family, as appropriate.

Family SGLI

Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (FSGLI) is a program extended to the spouses and dependent children of members insured under the SGLI program. FSGLI provides up to a maximum of \$100,000 of insurance coverage for spouses, not to exceed the amount of SGLI the insured member has in force, and \$10,000 for dependent children. Spousal coverage is issued in increments of \$10,000.

More Information on SGLI

Web Site:

<http://www.insurance.va.gov/sgliSite/SGLI/SGLI.htm>

Toll-Free Telephone:

1-800-419-1473

General Correspondence:

OSGLI
290 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Livingston, NJ 07039

Toll-Free Fax Numbers:

Death and accelerated benefits claims only: 1-877-832-4943
All other fax inquiries: 1-800-236-6142

Overseas:

Phone: 973-548-5699; Fax: 973-548-5300

E-mail:

Death & accelerated benefit claims: osgli.claims@prudential.com
All other inquiries: osgli.osgli@prudential.com

New VGLI* Applications and VGLI Reinstatements:

OSGLI
P.O. Box 41618
Philadelphia, PA 19176-9913

*** VGLI stands for Veterans' Group Life Insurance, a program of post-separation insurance which allows servicemembers to convert their SGLI coverage to renewable term insurance. Members with full-time SGLI coverage are eligible for VGLI upon release from service.**

Ed's note: Ensure your dependent/family info is always current in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Also, check your Leave & Earnings Statement (LES) to ensure SGLI payments are being deducted each month, even if you are in the IRR. If not, contact your Servicing Personnel Office.



The Coast Guard's Unsung Heroes

During Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, we saw many Coast Guard members in theater (air and surface) performing acts of heroism. Those acts of heroism received massive media coverage on a daily basis. However, it was the “unsung heroes” who also helped make this event a tremendous success. Some of these unsung heroes were assigned to logistical support, as the Command Master Chiefs (CMCs) or recalled reservists.

What exactly is logistical support and how does it make an operation a tremendous success? CAPT Kevin Marshall, the Chief of Staff for the Eighth Coast Guard District said it best, “If the boats are stuck on the trailer because they don’t have parts or fuel, it’s hard to be a hero.”

Without support, those in theater would not be able to perform as long, particularly during high tempo ops. Some of the immediate support provided included transportation, fuel, equipment, parts and resources which were coordinated by the Incident Management Teams (IMT) in Mobile, Ala., Alexandria, La. and St. Louis, Mo. for continuous sustainability. Simultaneously, another support group issued orders, provided mutual assistance loans, delivered travel orders, prepared and submitted travel claims for our members and their dependents. Although immediate support had been provided, much more was needed after the hurricanes passed. The need for temporary buildings and trailers became necessary as the normal missions still needed to be accomplished such as aids to navigation, maritime security, homeland security and even normal activities like the coordination of the Reserve servicewide exam.

Since Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated parts of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, the four CMCs of the Eighth Coast Guard District found themselves traveling extensively. MCPO Carlos Najera, from the Gulf Coast Region, was one of the first CMCs to arrive in what he called “Ground Zeros.” He found that much of the Gulf Coast Region had suffered severe, extensive or complete damage. Shortly afterwards, MCPO Scott Krehmeier and MCPO Gary Petty, the CMC and Reserve CMC from the Western Rivers, respectively, arrived in the affected areas. I was assigned at the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) in Baton Rouge where I stood the watch receiving distress calls from families and friends of people stranded by the hurricane’s aftermath.

MCPO Najera met up with me as I was traveling into the hurricane zone for the first time. The mission was to advise and assist RADM Robert Duncan, the Eighth District Commander, of existing or potential situations pertinent to the mission, morale, work-life balance and general well-being of Coast Guard personnel and their families. We met with the chiefs who immediately informed us what was needed to sustain the mission and take care of the crews. As an organization, we had done a superb job of rescuing or evacuating 33,544 people. Yet, we also needed to ensure we took care of our own. Since much of our infrastructure

had been damaged, many units needed recreational vehicles (RVs), temporary buildings and trailers to house our Coast Guard men and women. Another pressing need was the requirement to support the boat operations. This is where reservists played an integral role.

To support the expanding personnel requirements, the Coast Guard requested authorization for an involuntary Reserve recall of 50 officers and 500 enlisted members. Although 480 Selected Reservists were affected by the hurricanes, Port Security Units 308 and 309 were among the first responders in Gulfport, Miss. where the station and aids to navigation units had been completely destroyed. Other entities like the Disaster Area Response Team (DART), a combined force of active duty and reserve personnel, rescued and evacuated many in some of the worst conditions and massive destruction ever experienced in the history of this nation. Additional reservists were also en route to many of the other affected areas to provide relief and support



“The unsung heroes took care of me personally as I was one of those who evacuated, stood the watch, and then learned that I had lost my home of 29 years. In my view, the unsung heroes were my heroes.”

including PSU 307. Reservists filled key positions such as assisting the Principle Federal Official (PFO) and others located at Emergency Operation Centers (EOC), the Joint Field Office (JFO), and the Sectors. Many other support groups included auxiliaries, civilians, dependents (like Mrs. Nancy Collins, Mrs. Annette Duncan, Mrs. Mari Welch, Mrs. Mary Liz Marshall, Mrs. Diana Najera, Mrs. Brenda Gail Myers, Mrs. Kathi Callahan and many other ombudsmen), chaplains, lawyers, coxswains, engineers, pay specialists, administrators and more logistical support.

Without logistical support, the assessments from the CMCs and the recall of reservists, the Coast Guard’s response may not have been as successful. As MCPO Najera stated during one of our trips, “From my perspective, in the midst of devastation and disaster, I found myself surrounded by heroes, and I am honored and privileged to have served with all of them as their Command Master Chief.”

The key word is “all,” including the unsung heroes. I believe that in the Coast Guard, you can’t just say you care about your people; you’ve got to show it through your actions. The unsung heroes took care of me personally as I was one of those who evacuated, stood the watch, and then learned that I had lost my home of 29 years. In my view, the unsung heroes were my heroes.

**By MCPO Potenciano Ladut Jr., USCGR
Reserve Command Master Chief, Eighth District (Gulf Coast Region)
pladut@d8.uscg.mil**

OSLO, Minn. (April 7, 2006) — A U.S. Coast Guard 20-foot 'ice boat' navigates the flood waters of the Red River as it flows over Minnesota Highway 1. The Coast Guard personnel are performing humanitarian missions for civilians stranded by the flood waters of the Red River which borders Minnesota and North Dakota. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



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